

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:

- a plurality of reels for variably displaying each of a plurality of symbols thereon;
- a main display device disposed in front of the plurality of reels;
- an image display device for displaying an image that differs from the symbols of the reels;
- a payout device for payout;
- a controller for executing a predetermined program and controls the reels, the main display device, the image display device, and the payout device, the controller including a first control circuit for controlling the main display device and a second control circuit that is independent of the first control circuit and used for controlling the image display device,

wherein the controller operates a lottery of a winning combination according to the predetermined program;

- the controller controls and stops a changing display of the reel based on the winning combination obtained by the lottery;
- the controller allows the payout on the basis of an amount of payout set to the winning combination when a stop mode of the reel matches a symbol combination of the winning combination;
- the controller ~~allows~~ causes the second control circuit to allow the image display device to display the winning combination and an amount of payout while changing the amount of payout;
- the controller has a plurality of kinds of payout data with respect to one kind of game, and applies one kind of payout data based on a selected operation for the game to be played; and
- the controller ~~allows~~ causes the first control circuit to allow the image-main display device to display a password input screen.

2. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the image display device is formed by an electric display device and displays a plurality of images with reference to the amount of payout.

3. (Original) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the controller operates in a plurality of operating modes for changing the amount of payout.

4. (Original) The gaming machine according to claim 3, wherein at least one of the operating modes changes a probability of the lottery.

5. (Original) The gaming machine according to claim 4, wherein at least one of the operating modes changes the probability of the lottery for a bonus winning combination.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the controller also authenticates effectiveness of a password inputted from the password input screen by an operation of a manager for managing the gaming machine, and changing the amount of payout on the basis of a result of an authentication device.

8. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:
a variable display device for variably displaying a plurality of symbols;
a lottery device for operating a lottery of a winning combination;
a stopping control device for controlling and stopping the variable display device on a basis of a result of the lottery;

a payout device for payout on the basis of an amount of the payout set for the winning combination when a stopped state of the variable display device reaches a symbol combination equal to the winning combination;

a payout display device for displaying the winning combination and at least the amount of payout to be paid out;

a payout changing device for changing the amount of payout by applying one kind of payout data from a plurality of kinds of payout data with respect to one kind of game, based on a selected operation for the game to be played; and

~~the controller allows a first control device for allowing the image variable~~
display device to display a password input screen; and

a second control device for allowing the payout display device to display the winning combination and at least the amount of payout to be paid.

9. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to Claim 2, wherein the amount of payout is changed by selecting the plurality of images.

10. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to Claim 2, wherein the amount of payout is changed by changing each of data shown in the plurality of images.

11. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to Claim 3, wherein at least one of the operating modes is selected.

12. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 1, wherein the password input screen displays a pseudo-keyboard.

13. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 8, wherein the password input screen displays a pseudo-keyboard.

14. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:
a plurality of reels for variably displaying each of a plurality of symbols thereon;

a main display device disposed in front of the plurality of reels;

an image display device for displaying an image that differs from the symbols of the reels;

a payout device for paying out a number of media when a winning combination is determined; and

a controller for executing a predetermined program and controls the reels, the main display device, the image display device and the payout device, the controller including a first control circuit for controlling the main display device and a second control circuit that is independent of the first control circuit and used for controlling the image display device,

wherein the controller operates a lottery of a winning combination according to the predetermined program;

the controller controls and stops a changing display of the reel based on the winning combination obtained by the lottery;

the controller allows the payout on the basis of an amount of payout set to the winning combination when a stop mode of the reel matches a symbol combination of the winning combination;

the controller ~~allows~~ causes the second control circuit to allow the image display device to display the winning combination and an amount of payout;

the controller has a plurality of kinds of payout data with respect to one kind of game, and applies one kind of payout data based on a selected operation for the game to be played; and

the controller is operative to cause the first control circuit to allow a support menu and password input screen to be displayed on the ~~image-main~~ display device such that, after an operator enters a correct password on the password input screen displayed by the ~~image-main~~ display device, the support menu is displayed on the ~~image-main~~ display device so that the operator selects from the support menu at least a first mode, the at least first mode enabling the operator to at least change the amount of payout from a first payout amount to a second payout amount being different from the first payout amount.

15. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 14, wherein, in the at least first mode, the operator is enabled to change a first winning probability to a second winning probability being different from the first winning probability.

16. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine according to claim 14, wherein, in the at least first mode, the controller is operative to cause at least one of a plurality of payout-rate setting screens to be displayed on the ~~image-main~~ display device, each one of the plurality of payout-rate setting screens having a plurality of tables of payout-rate data, each one of the plurality of tables of payout-rate data being different from one another.

17. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine according to claim 16, wherein each one of the plurality of table of payout-rate data includes a series of prize-winning combinations and a number of media to be disbursed upon payout for each one of the series of prize-winning combinations and an internal-winning probability for each one of the series of prize-winning combinations.